

SEL and the Arts



A wave of ideas has reached our shores, seeking ways to support the mental health needs of our school communities. Many practices—from character education programs to service learning to trauma informed learning—have offered activities to build students core values ([Wallace, 2017](#)). Another practice to emerge, Social Emotional Learning (SEL), aims to instill broader competencies through the building of self-awareness, responsible decision-making, relationship skills, and social awareness ([Gulbrandson, 2018](#)).

SEL is “the process through which children and adults acquire and effectively apply the knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to understand and manage emotions, set and achieve positive goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain positive relationships, and make responsible decisions ([WI DPI](#)).”

SEL has a growing body of evidence to support the use of these competencies in our school communities with both our young learners and adults. Wisconsin is one of 20+ consortium members with CASEL, the leading research organization for SEL practice. Wisconsin’s SEL work highlights three domains of practice for schools to integrate within all aspects of the school community: Emotional Development, Self Concept, and Social Competence ([WI DPI, 2018](#)). The three domains align to Wisconsin’s vision for keeping kids healthy, safe, supported, and encouraged ([WI DPI Webinar, 2018](#)).

The threads of SEL are a natural part of the areas of art, dance, music, and theatre. Consider how you integrate the SEL domains in your classroom. Here is an example of [SEL domains aligned to the Wisconsin Standards for Music](#). Work to develop SEL examples for the arts standards is in process. To learn more about SEL and the arts visit: [DPI SEL](#) [DPI Infographic](#) [SEL in the Arts Article](#) [CASEL](#)

–Julie Palkowski, Arts and Creativity Education Consultant

STANDARDS

Professional Development

Visit the [Arts Professional Development](#) to register for face-to-face and online sessions.

Posters

Print out your desktop poster copies of the arts standards. Click to see and print. [Art & Design](#) [Theatre \(Performance\)](#) [Music](#) [Dance](#) [Theatre \(Production\)](#)

Art and Design Education

The [Wisconsin Standards for Art and Design](#) were adopted by the State Superintendent in November 2019. Visit for [updates](#).

Dance Education

The [Wisconsin Standards for Dance](#) were adopted by the State Superintendent in June 2019. Resources are available online.

Music Education

The [Wisconsin Standards for Music](#) is online with [resources](#).

Theatre Education

The [Wisconsin Standards for Theatre](#) is online with resources.

WI DPI ARTS RESOURCES

Click on the links. Additional resources will be added in future issues.



[WI DPI
Arts Websites](#)



[Arts Professional
Development](#)



[WI DPI Arts Social
Media Networks](#)



[Wisconsin's Model
Academic Standards](#)



[SLO Arts
Sharing Site](#)



[Conferences
WI DPI Letter](#)

WISCONSIN ARTS EDUCATION NEWS – 2019-20

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CONTACT US

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